



# An Introduction to the U.S. Green Building Council



## Cincinnati Regional Chapter

September 23, 2004

Copyright 2004, U.S. Green Building Council®



# OUR MISSION:



- To promote building projects that are environmentally responsible, healthy, and cost-effective places to work and live.
- Establish green building as the standard, not the alternative, in the Cincinnati region.



# What We Do



- Conduct monthly presentations, lectures, tours and demonstrations
- Increase knowledge of LEED® & green building
- Meet & exchange ideas with building professionals
- Provide local leadership





# Why Was Our Chapter Formed?

- To strengthen and organize the efforts of several individuals that were promoting green building.
- To expand the work of the **USGBC**, the most respected and most recognized not-for-profit green building organization.
- To transform the local building market.







# Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design®

A leading-edge system for designing, constructing, operating and certifying the world's greenest buildings.

**USGBC's flagship rating system is  
LEED for New Construction and Major  
Renovations (LEED-NC)**



# Local Uses of LEED

- 11 local projects are registered with the US Green Building Council
  - 9 buildings at University of Cincinnati
  - PNC bank branch
  - Norwood post-industrial office renovation





# Problems

- Buildings in the U.S. consume more than 30% of our total energy and 60% of our electricity.
- C&D waste comprise 15-20% of all the solid waste generated in Ohio.
- Indoor air pollutant levels may be 2 - 5 times higher than outdoor levels.
- Health problems caused by poor IAQ cost 150 million workdays and about \$15 billion in lost productivity each year in the U.S.



# The Solution: Sustainable Design



- Designing, constructing, and operating buildings and landscapes in a manner that minimizes the negative environmental indoor and outdoor impacts.
- Incorporates energy efficiency, water conservation, waste minimization, pollution prevention and indoor air quality in all phases of a building's life.





# Benefits of Green Building

## Environmental benefits

- Reduce natural resource consumption
- Reduce energy and water consumption

## Economic benefits

- Improve the bottom line, reduce operating costs

## Health and safety benefits

- Enhance occupant comfort and health - increase worker productivity.

## Community benefits

- Minimize strain on local infrastructures and improve quality of life



# Economic Benefits

- Pittsburgh Convention Center
  - 35% less energy usage. Equivalent to ~\$500,000/year in savings.
- Audubon House, NYC
  - \$100,000/year saving on energy, 60% less than similar code compliant plant buildings in NYC.





# Productivity Benefits



- **Improve occupant performance**
  - Student performance is better in daylit schools.
- **Reduce absenteeism and turnover**
  - Lockheed Corp. - absenteeism dropped 15%.
  - Waiting list for teachers in green schools.
- **Increase retail sales with daylighting**
  - Studies have shown ~40% improvement





# To Join our Chapter

- Visit [www.usgbc.org](http://www.usgbc.org)
- Click on *Chapters*
- Scroll down to *Cincinnati Regional*
- Click on *Join This Chapter*
  - If you have not logged in as a site user, log in at this time, or, if needed, create a new site user profile as directed.

